

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor Announces Appointments to Commissions and Boards

Topeka – Kansas Governor Sam Brownback announced today numerous appointments to boards and commissions.

“I appreciate the willingness of these Kansans to give of their time, energy, and talent. With their help, we will make our great state even better,” Governor Brownback said.

Kansas Commission On Veterans Affairs

The Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs assists veterans and their dependents in securing benefits from the federal government and the State of Kansas as well as providing information and assistance to veterans and dependents in obtaining special services and benefits based on knowledge of federal and state laws, policies and regulations pertaining to veterans benefits and services. All five members of the commission are appointed by the Governor to four year terms. All appointments must be veterans of the U.S. military and each congressional district must be represented.

- Command Sergeant Major John J. Ryan, Carbondale, has 38 years of service in the Kansas Army National Guard and is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. CSM Ryan has earned a long list of awards including the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.

North Central Kansas Library System

The purpose of NCKL is to provide, through a system of cooperating libraries, improved library service to all citizens in the North Central Kansas Area. The System Board consists of one representative elected by the Trustees of each participating library and one representative from each county appointed by the Governor to represent territory not within the district of any participating library, but within the tax district of the System. Each representative is limited to a four year term.

- Heather Dreith is an experienced library director from Waterville. She graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in Journalism.

Kansas Dental Board

The Kansas Dental Board was created to carry out and enforce the Kansas Dental Practices Act. The Board consists of nine members: six licensed and qualified resident dentists (one from each congressional district and two at-large), two licensed and qualified resident dental hygienists, and one representative from the general public. Members of the Board are appointed by the Governor for four-year terms and serve until their successors are appointed.

- Scott Hamilton, DDS-MSD, Topeka, is a member of the Topeka District Dental Society, Kansas Dental Association and American Dental Association. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas, his DDS degree from the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Dentistry and his Certificate in Orthodontics and Master of Science in Dentistry from the Baylor College of Dentistry.

Kansas State Board of Technical Professions

The Kansas State Board of Technical Professions was established by the Kansas Legislature to act as the administrative agency for licensing and regulating the professions of Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Land Surveying, and Geology. The Board consists of 13 members appointed by the Governor to serve four year terms.

- Robert Henthorne, Topeka, has worked as an Engineering Technician through Professional Geologist IV for the Kansas Department of Transportation. He earned his B.S. in Geology from the University of Kansas.
- Richard Hayter, Manhattan, is the Associate Dean of Engineering for External Affairs Emeritus at Kansas State University's College of Engineering. He earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from South Dakota State University and his M.S. and Ph.D in Mechanical Engineering at Kansas State University.

Kansas Athletic Commission

The Kansas Athletic Commission administers laws and regulations governing regulated sports and wrestling. The five Athletic Commission Members are appointed by the Governor to four year terms.

- Ross Puritty, Wichita, was a professional boxer for nearly 20 years. His career highlights include winning the WBC International Heavy Weight Boxing Championship in 1998. He is currently a personal trainer at Wichita State University and an assistant football coach at Kapaun Mt. Carmel High School in Wichita.

Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing provides advocacy, information and referral, sign language interpreter registration, coordination of interpreting services, and the Kansas Quality Assurance Screening for certification of sign language interpreters. The Board consists of 17 members, 12 of which are appointed by the Governor to serve 3 year terms.

- Dennis Selznick, Overland Park, is currently a product innovations manager for Sprint. He earned a B.S. in Business Administration from California State University in Northridge, California. He is a steering committee member of the Kansas City Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America and is a re-appointment to the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
- Meg Atwood, Topeka, is an experienced teacher in Kansas and overseas. She earned her B.A. in Elementary Education and in Special Education in Learning Disabilities from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma prior to getting her Masters of Science Degree in both Special Education specializing in Learning Disabilities and in Education Specializing in Curriculum and instruction.

Kansas Guardianship Program Board of Directors

The goal of the Kansas Guardianship Program (KGP) is to provide that qualified, caring, willing and trained persons are available throughout the State to serve as court appointed guardians or conservators for those program eligible persons in need of this level of protection and advocacy. The KGP is governed by a seven member board of directors, six of whom are appointed by the Governor and one by the Chief Justice.

- Teresa McQuin, Topeka, is a licensed specialist social worker and currently works as a clinical therapist at Transition and Loss Counseling in Topeka. She earned her B.S. in Psychology from Emporia State University and her Master of Social Work with a Clinical Specialty from the University of Kansas.
- Christine Niblock, Hoxie, has 25 years of experience with financial statements, general ledger, cash management, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and inventory. 10 of these years also included managing other staff members. She graduated with a B.S. in accounting/business administration from Marymount College of Kansas.

Kansas Athletic Trainers Council

The AT Council advises the Kansas Board of Healing Arts on statutes and regulations necessary to protect the public and strengthen the AT profession. The AT Council also reviews investigations related to AT licensees and makes disposition recommendations. The AT Council consists of five members, three of which are appointed by the Governor for three year terms.

- Matthew Way, Wichita, is a licensed athletic trainer in Kansas. He is currently employed at Mid-America Orthopedics as an outreach athletic trainer/clinical athletic trainer. He also serves at the athletic trainer at Southeast High School. Way earned his BSE in Sports Science/Athletic Training from the University of Kansas and his MA in Sports Medicine/Healthcare from the University of Alabama.

Kansas Firefighters Memorial Advisory Committee

The Kansas Firefighters Memorial Advisory Committee advises the Director and the Secretary of Administration with regard to matters concerning the memorial to Kansas firefighters on the State Capitol grounds. The committee is composed of nine members, seven of which are appointed by the Governor, one is appointed by the state fire marshal and one by the executive director of the Kansas State Historical Society.

- Dennis Phillips, Topeka, is a member of the International Association of Fire Fighters. He has 32 years of experience with the Topeka Fire Department, obtaining the rank of Chief in 2002 and retiring in 2004. He is also a national certified Hazardous Material Technician. Phillips graduated from Kansas City Kansas Community College with a fire safety concentration.
- James Vollintine, Topeka, has served with the Topeka Fire Department as a fire investigator since 2002 and as an apparatus operator for 9 years prior to that. He has earned his certifications as an Emergency Medical Technician, Master Diver, First Responder Hazmat, and flammable liquids suppression.
- Bob Pape, Merriam, is an experienced fire fighter with 34 years and-counting service at the City of Merriam Fire Department. He is currently the Fire Chief/Fire Marshal. His education includes a degree in both Science and Fire Science from Johnson County Community College and a BGS in Personnel Administration and an MPA in Public Administration from the University of Kansas.
- Jerry Snyder, Manhattan, has served the community of Manhattan at the Manhattan Fire Department since 1977. He began his career at the Manhattan Fire Department as a firefighter and has worked his way up to his current position as Director of Fire Services. Snyder attended Kansas State University.

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